

# EXHIBIT “H”

Transcript filed in the office of the Clerk of  
Courts this            day of            , 2022.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 - - -

3 THE COURT: All right. We are on the  
4 record. This is Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 versus Christie Dee Harr, this is case is at  
6 No. CR-205-2020, and CR-1186-2020.

7 The Defendant is present in the  
8 courtroom today, represented by Pat Fitch.  
9 And Mr. Zappala is here on behalf of the  
10 Commonwealth.

11 Ms. Harr, we're going to swear you in.  
12 Please raise your right hand.

13 (The Defendant was duly sworn)

14 THE COURT: Okay. What is the nature  
15 of the agreement?

16 MR. ZAPPALA: Thank you, your Honor.  
17 I'm going to start with Docket No. 205-2020.

18 At that docket number, the  
19 Commonwealth will be moving to amend Count 1,  
20 of Aggravated Cruelty to Animals, 5534(a)(1),  
21 a Felony of the 3rd Degree, the Commonwealth  
22 will be moving to amend that to Neglect of  
23 Animals, 5532(a)(1), a Misdemeanor of the  
24 3rd Degree.

25 The Defendant will be pleading

1           No Contest to that Count 1. In exchange for  
2           that, the Commonwealth will recommend a  
3           sentence of one year of probation.

4                   Special conditions on that include a  
5           mental health evaluation. The Defendant will  
6           not possess animals and have no contact with  
7           the animals seized. The remaining count  
8           would be nolle prossed.

9                   And then, at Docket No. 1186-2020, the  
10          Defendant will be pleading No Contest to  
11          Count 3, Neglect of Animals, that is  
12          5532(a)(1), a Misdemeanor of the 3rd Degree.

13                  In exchange for that, the Commonwealth  
14          will recommend a sentence of one year of  
15          probation, to run concurrent with Count 1 at  
16          205-2020, with the same special conditions.  
17          The remaining counts will be nolle prossed.

18                  THE COURT: Is that your understanding  
19          of the agreement?

20                  MR. FITCH: That is, your Honor, the  
21          No Contest to the Washington County charges,  
22          thank you very much.

23                  THE COURT: I'm going to do a sidebar  
24          for a second.

25                       (Discussion off the record.)

1 THE COURT: We're at Case  
2 Nos. 1186-2020 and 205-2020, Commonwealth of  
3 Pennsylvania versus Christie Dee Harr.

4 So the only recommendation, after  
5 reviewing the file, that I was making for me  
6 to accept the plea is to run the cases  
7 consecutive, rather than concurrent.

8 Are you guys in agreement with that or  
9 not?

10 MR. ZAPPALA: Yes, your Honor.

11 MR. FITCH: Yes, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Harr, we swore  
13 you in.

14 Do you read, write and understand the  
15 English language?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Have you taken any drugs  
18 or alcohol into your system in the last 48  
19 hours?

20 THE DEFENDANT: No.

21 THE COURT: Do you take any  
22 prescriptions or have any diagnoses that  
23 would prevent you from a making a voluntary  
24 decision?

25 THE DEFENDANT: No.

1           THE COURT: Did you read the guilty  
2           plea colloquy, which would be -- the No  
3           Contest colloquy is the same, but you're  
4           pleading No Contest today, and the general  
5           conditions of probation and parole?

6           THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7           THE COURT: Do you have any questions  
8           about any of the information in these  
9           documents?

10          THE DEFENDANT: No.

11          THE COURT: Did anyone threaten you in  
12          any way to enter into this agreement?

13          THE DEFENDANT: No.

14          THE COURT: Did anyone promise you  
15          anything?

16          THE DEFENDANT: Just the agreement  
17          that we --

18          THE COURT: Yes. So other than the  
19          agreement, did anyone promise you anything  
20          outside of the agreement that is on the  
21          record?

22          THE DEFENDANT: No.

23          THE COURT: After communicating with  
24          your attorney, are you entering into this  
25          agreement independently?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Okay. And do you  
3 understand that you will not be able to  
4 possess any animals, pets or otherwise?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Right.

6 MR. FITCH: Your Honor, if I may,  
7 respectfully, if you would consider or  
8 continue to consider the concurrent nature of  
9 the plea, I know you're thinking about  
10 that now.

11 THE COURT: Well, it's either you  
12 accept the plea or not, and we'll go to  
13 trial. I mean, I'm not going to accept the  
14 plea unless it is run consecutively. If you  
15 want it to run concurrent, I most likely  
16 would reject that plea, and you would go to  
17 jury selection next week.

18 MR. FITCH: We'll go with consecutive,  
19 your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Is that your  
21 understanding?

22 MR. FITCH: Yes.

23 THE COURT: So it's two years of  
24 probation, not one year of probation, which  
25 they're going to run consecutively.

1           Do you acknowledge on the record that  
2           you are pleading No Contest based on some of  
3           the information that the Commonwealth has?

4           THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

5           THE COURT: Okay. You have 10 days  
6           from today file post-sentencing motions, and  
7           you have 30 days from today to file an appeal  
8           to the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

9           If you file post-sentencing motions,  
10          your appeal period will not begin until final  
11          disposition of those motions.

12          You have a right to an attorney to  
13          assist you with the motions or appeal, and  
14          you can appeal or file motions for four  
15          reasons:

16          You can claim Washington County does  
17          not have jurisdiction over you;

18          You can claim that the sentence  
19          imposed today is illegal;

20          You can claim that you did not enter  
21          this admission knowingly, intelligently and  
22          voluntarily; and

23          You can claim your counsel did not  
24          properly or effectively represent you.

25          You also have 10 days from today to



1           petition this Court with a request to  
2           withdraw your plea, and I would take it under  
3           consideration.

4                     You have the right to have an attorney  
5           to assist you with that, as well.

6                     Do you have any questions about the  
7           terms of the plea, or any of the information  
8           I just provided to you?

9                     THE DEFENDANT: No.

10                    THE COURT: Anything else,  
11           Mr. Zappala?

12                    MR. ZAPPALA: No, your Honor.

13                    THE COURT: Is there any restitution  
14           in this case?

15                    MR. ZAPPALA: No, your Honor.

16                    THE COURT: And it is part of the  
17           sentence not to possess any animals or have  
18           contact with any animals or pets or anything  
19           of that nature; correct?

20                    MR. ZAPPALA: That is correct.

21                    THE COURT: This Court finds that the  
22           Defendant is entering this plea knowingly,  
23           intelligently and voluntarily. I will accept  
24           the plea as reflected on the record.

25                    MR. FITCH: Your Honor, Ms. Harr has a

1 short statement she would like to say, if you  
2 will.

3 THE COURT: Hold on. Okay.

4 So I'm going to rescind that I  
5 accepted the plea and the sentence, because  
6 you have the right to give me a statement  
7 before I sentence you. So I'm rescinding  
8 that I have accepted the final plea offer  
9 until you give me that statement.

10 MR. FITCH: Okay.

11 THE COURT: You may proceed.

12 THE DEFENDANT: I'm pleading No  
13 Contest or Nolo Contendre to two counts of  
14 Misdemeanor Level 3 Animal Neglect, regarding  
15 the charges in Washington County, for the  
16 conditions cited at 320 Second Street,  
17 Donora, Pennsylvania, 15033, Washington  
18 County.

19 To be clear, I am not admitting guilt  
20 of any crime, but rather, if this case went  
21 to trial, they could possibly convince a jury  
22 that the animals in question were neglected.

23 At no point did I ever harm or intend  
24 to harm any of the animals in my care.  
25 However, due to the damage both to the

1           residence and the rescue by a tornado in  
2           August of 2016, and the inability to raise  
3           the necessary funds for the repairs, the  
4           condition of the property was less than  
5           favorable.

6                   I do want it noted that I was in the  
7           middle of moving the animals to a new, safe  
8           location, and had 75 percent of them already  
9           moved, when the search and seizure was  
10          conducted. So I was, indeed, doing my very  
11          best to remedy this situation.

12                   And I would also just like to note  
13          that I was told that all my property would be  
14          returned; however, we have yet to receive an  
15          itemized statement for the items taken from  
16          the church.

17                   THE COURT: Okay.

18                   MR. FITCH: Thank you, your Honor.

19                   THE COURT: I will accept the plea as  
20          reflected on the record. And you are to  
21          report over to the Adult Probation Office  
22          today to get signed up. There will be costs  
23          of prosecution associated with this case, and  
24          you can make a payment plan to satisfy the  
25          costs of prosecution.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. FITCH: Thank you.

3 MR. ZAPPALA: Thank you, your Honor.

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5 (Thereupon, at 11:30 a.m., the hearing  
6 was concluded.)

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1 CERTIFICATE

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
5 stenographic notes taken by me of the hearing of  
6 the above-cause, and that this is a correct  
7 transcript of the same.

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9

10 /s/ Christine B. Mumper  
11 Christine B. Mumper, Court Reporter

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15 The foregoing record of the hearing of  
16 the above-cause is hereby directed to be filed.

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19 /s/ Brandon P. Neuman, J.  
20 BRANDON P. NEUMAN, JUDGE

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